coordination with the State Governments concerned and renders necessary assistance to them to contain crime on Railways.

Crimes against SCs / STs/Women/Children

4750. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the position of crimes against SCs/STs/Women and Children in various States for 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof by standard norms for the past five years with emerging trends;

(c) the Details of action taken/proposed to be taken to deal with the problem; and

(d) the action proposed for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau collects regularly data on crimes against SCs/STs, women and children and analyses the same in its annual publication entitled 'Crime in India'. The analysis for 1999 could not be undertaken, as data from some of the States is yet to be received.

(b) The details of crime during 1995—98 against SCs/STs, women and children are as below:

Year	SC	ST	Women	Children
1995	32996	54989	109259	5749
1996	31440	4973	115723	5582
1997	27944	4644	121265	5980
1998	25638	4276	131475	5882

(c) and (d) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. As such, the registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system to ensure prevention of atrocities against the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, women and other vulnerable sections of the society. The Government of India has also been extending

financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure.

Ultras in NE

4751. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the activities of Ultras are on increase recently in North East; and

(b) the steps being taken to nab the Ultras and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Militant activities in Manipur and Tripura have shown an increase in recent past. The situation in rest of the North-East, including Assam and Nagaland, has shown a distinct improvement.

Steps taken by the Government to combat militancy in the North-East include, *inter alia*, deployment of Central Para Military Forces and Army; improved coordination and sharing of intelligence between the security forces; modernisation/upgradation of State Police forces; reimbursement of security related expenditure; sanction of Special Central Assistance to the State Governments; declaration of the most seriously affected areas as 'disturbed areas' and notification of the major insurgent groups as unlawful associations'. The situation is also kept under watch and is reviewed from time to time for taking appropriate action.

As per available information, during 1999 and till May 3, 2000, a total of 628 militants have been killed and 1862 arrested in the North-Eastern States.

ULFA's Shelter in Bhutan

4752. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the statement made by Assam Chief Minister that Bhutan is giving shelter to ULFA and Bodo militants;

(b) if so, what are Government's comments thereon; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up the matter with Government of Bhutan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Reports indicate that there are camps